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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-1501

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
TRANSPORTATION
AND INFRASTRUCTURE

SMALL BUSINESS COMMITTEE
CHAIRWOMAN, SUBCOMMITTEE ON RURAL
DEVELOPMENT, AGRICULTURE, TRADE AND
ENTREPRENEURSHIP

February 28, 2020

Secretary Alex Azar II
Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20201

Dear Secretary Azar,

I write to express my concern regarding the Coronavirus outbreak in China and its threat to United States citizens. Since the beginning of the year, the virus has spread beyond the borders of China with confirmed cases now in the United States and other countries around the globe.

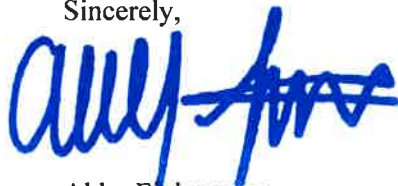
While the Administration mounts its response and Congress prepares its emergency funding package, I would like to know what resources are immediately available through the Department of Health and Human Services to help our state and local governments quickly prepare themselves against a possible outbreak.

Specifically, I request the following information:

- How can local hospitals identify and prepare to quarantine affected individuals? What resources are available to help them to successfully contain the virus if a case is confirmed in their community? What resources can they expect?
- How is the Department and the Administration's taskforce currently offering guidance and assistance to state and local governments to prevent and contain an outbreak?
- What outreach and training for state and local partners has occurred to-date?
- How can our congressional office best position ourselves to help local governments and hospitals prepare themselves against the virus?

Thank you for your time and consideration of my concerns. I look forward to your timely response.

Sincerely,



Abby Finkenauer
Member of Congress

CC:

Vice President Mike Pence
Office of the Vice President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500